



Muddy Matters

TROUT
UNLIMITED

The Newsletter of the Muddy Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

December 2005

Next Meeting December 21, 2005; 7 p.m. at the Collinsville Fish & Game Club.

Upcoming Chapter Events

Underway Now - North Branch Phase-1 Project began and buffers need planted. (see inside for details on how to help)

Early December 2005 - Incubators!
The first or second week of December we expect to receive eggs for the incubators. (see article inside)

December 21, 2005 - General Meeting
7:00pm at the Collinsville F&G Club
* Slide Show of Alaska Fishing Trip
by Fred Bridge.
* Election of Officers & Directors
Get involved, *volunteer*.

January 18, 2006 - General Meeting
7:00pm at the Collinsville F&G Club

February 15, 2006 - General Meeting
7:00pm at the Collinsville F&G Club

Make some time to lend a hand at the numerous riparian buffer plantings to be scheduled for the North Branch Phase-1 Growing Greener project.

We are very excited to finally begin this and will require lots of volunteer help planting trees and seeding the banks as the project takes shape. Contact Ron Heuston or email the website with your availability so we can get you in the schedule. Get involved, Volunteer!

Get Your 2005 Patch or the two-patch set for a special person on your Holiday list.

Presidents Message

It is hard to believe but it is election time again. Time flies when you're having fun. Nominations and Elections will be held at the December meeting. During the past two years several positions were vacant. Last year was the first for the CEI (Chapter Efficiency Index) program from National TU. This program is used to evaluate chapters. The CEI documents chapter activity or lack thereof and illustrates strengths and weaknesses. Over all MCTU did quite well with an 84% rating, but our shortfall was filling all required leadership positions. MCTU must fill these positions to strengthen our CEI.

Without activity and meeting recommended requirements the CEI board may recommend consolidating chapters or can revoke the chapter's charter. This is not a concern for MCTU but we need to meet our requirements. We encourage you to step up and fill a position which will greatly help our CEI rating and keep MCTU on the top end of state chapters. Please attend the December meeting and help fill a vacant position.

MCTU is closing 2005 with a new building at the co-op nursery, successful riparian buffer plantings at St. James Church, DHFFO Area and construction of the largest stream restoration project in the Muddy Creek Watershed.

MCTU is excited about 2006! Moving into our new facility at the co-op nursery will be more efficient and volunteer friendly. We also plan to establish a self-watering plant nursery to store native plants for riparian buffer projects at the old trailer site. In June construction will begin on the Woodbine project and a fisherman-parking area will be installed. The co-op nursery will be improved by removing the Jack Dam and replacing with a Cross-Rock Vane structure and bank protection. On the Steve Knopp property we plan to remove the old R.R. Bed, and trestle by Spencer Run, establish more fishermen parking and repair the eroded bank on the DHFFO area. On the North Branch of Muddy Creek we plan to remove an old bridge and restore the banks.

MCTU is making a major impact in the Muddy Creek Watershed. The landowners and general public are seeing what we can accomplish and this will lead to many more projects in the future. Just think how much more the chapter could get done in a shorter period of time with more member participation. Right now a hand full of dedicated members are getting things done. Please take a little of your time and participate in some of these projects. Be part of the success story that is unfolding in the Muddy Creek Watershed.

MCTU "Leader in cold water conservation in southern York County, PA"

**MCCTU Chapter 575
Executive Staff**

President: Ron Heuston 244-1851
Vice Pres: Tim Flaharty 244-3393
Sec/Treasurer: Bob Shaffer 246-4512

Directors:

(1) Maurice Chioda 747-5613
(1) Christian White 767-4562
(2) David R. Pickel 741-6020
(2) Bill Boyd 244-7388
(1) One 1-year position open - *Volunteer!*

Co-op Membership Chairman:

Steve Francis 862-3485

Co-op Nursery Manager:

Jan Pickel 382-4402

Grant & Incubator Program Coordinator

Ron Heuston 244-1851

Environmental Chairman

Maurice Chioda 747-5613

Riparian Buffers

David R. Pickel 741-6020

Dirt & Gravel Roads

Tom Dube 741-6914

Water Quality Specialist:

Bill Stanley 755-4144

WAY Representative

Rob Davis 244-6265

Stocking Coordinator

Maurice Chioda 747-5613

Newsletter Editor & Webmaster

Maurice Chioda 747-5613

Newsletter Support Staff

Ron Heuston - Contributing Editor

Bob Shaffer - Contributing Editor

Bill Boyd - Mailing

Roger McWilliams - Mailing

www.muddycreektu.homestead.com

Muddy Matters is a publication of Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited, chapter no. 575.

Questions or comments about the content of this newsletter can be submitted through regular mail;

**Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited #575
P.O. Box 211
Dallastown, PA 17313**

or by emailing our website.

muddycreektu@suscom.net

Members may also contribute chapter related stories or articles to this newsletter by submitting them to the above addresses. This is your newsletter, help make it the best it can be. *Thank you.*

Report Water Pollution

PA Department of Environmental Protection
717-705-4741 After Hours: 877-333-1904

Report Fishing Regulation Violations
PF&BC Waterways Conservation Officer
SC Regional Office (717) 486-7087

**Growing Greener
North Branch Phase-1 Underway**

On Monday November 14, 2005 Aquatic Resource Restoration Co. started construction on the North Branch Phase-1 project along Rippling Run Road above Felton, on the Personen & Thompson properties. The construction of this project will be 4 to 6 weeks depending on the weather. Project objectives include:

- *Stabilization of 3,200 feet of severely impaired stream.*
- *The reduction of sediment loads caused by severe bank erosion.*
- *The improvement of aquatic habitat.*
- *1,051 feet of channel reconstruction.*
- *20 J-Hook Vanes.*
- *4 Cross Rock Vanes.*
- *Livestock streambank fencing (4,882 ft.).*
- *Install 3,200 linear feet of riparian buffer.*

Eight cross sections were surveyed in 2003 and 2004 on the project site. The survey indicated an average soil loss of 3,460 pounds per year for each foot of stream bank. With a total project length of 3,400 feet, the total annual soil loss due to erosion and channel migration is estimated to be over 11,000,000 pounds or 5,500 tons.

MCTU is responsible for providing straw and planting the riparian buffer. Straw has been purchased from a local farmer. After the Thanksgiving Holiday and deer season ARRC will have a consistent work pattern and will be able to schedule time for plantings.

Contact an officer, director or email our website if you wish to help with this exciting project. This will help us to coordinate the volunteers with workdays.

We are very excited this project has finally started and now that it has we have some work to do. We look forward to seeing some of our new members and reacquaint with the old while accomplishing our goals with this project.

Did you know that MCTU has planted over 375 trees and shrubs in 2005? And we have more to plant.

We have another 600 green ash trees to plant at the North Branch Project and also have received an order of 300 trees and shrubs from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation Trees For Streams Program.

Also, we have "planted the seed" for our plant nursery by germinating 200 oaks and 100 hickory trees which should be ready to plant this spring or fall. Thanks go to Dave Pickel for getting our Plant Nursery started.

New Headquarters At Nursery

Early in November our new building arrived at the nursery. Work is underway to transfer necessary items from the old trailer to the new facility.

Due to age and the Mother's Day flood damage, it was necessary to replace the trailer with a new building to store supplies for the nursery and TU activities. Equipped with a front entrance as well as an overhead garage door to accommodate a variety of functions, it measures 476 square feet and will provide dry and secure storage for tools, feed, pumps, nets, mowers, etc.

Relocation was essential due to high water events that caused damage to the trailer that accommodated our needs for 11 years. The new building is located on high ground, upstream from the nursery intake and presents an improved look to the landscape.

Thanks to the building committee that helped make the project successful. Additional thanks goes to Gary Wolford, Jay Mundis, and Jim Lowe for assisting with fill ground and excavation.

Cost of the building was minimal due to a grant from the PA Fish & Game Commission and a great price from Twin Locust Barns, which recently opened a sales location in the 500 block of East Main Street in Dallastown.

Co-op Nursery Report

The mild fall weather has been kind to the brook trout and rainbow trout at the Co-op Nursery. After a short period of acclimation to our water and falls cooler temperatures, mortality waned to manageable levels. We only lost a couple hundred fish to the warm water and bacterial infection which required medication. This is good news.

However, this years abundant crop of brook trout and rainbow trout presents a population issue which led to a vote by MCTU leadership to donate 500 brook trout to the Collinsville Fish & Game Club's Co-op Nursery and also to do a winter stocking of another 500 rainbow trout once their size is reasonable. We came to these conclusions after great debate over what to do with the additional fish raised by the species we received. We expect to raise and stock about 4,500 brook and rainbow trout for the 2006 season. This amount is fewer than in the recent past due to the greater growth size these two species accomplish over brown trout. We hope Mother Nature is as kind this winter and spring as it has been this fall.

Kudos Korner

Special thanks to these members who Volunteered during recent projects.

And to the regular Nursery Feeders:

Dave Pickel, Jay Dietz, Maurice, Dean Snyder, Ed Keener, Bob Shaffer, Jan Pickel.

<i>Watershed Weekend Planting</i>	<i>St. James Church Planting</i>	<i>Incubator Prep</i>
Ron Heuston	Ann Leffel	Jim Bucher
Maurice	Maurice	Ron Heuston
Jim Chioda	Ron Heuston	Maurice
Vin Chioda	Dave Pickel	Steve Francis
Jake Romig	Ed Keener	Josh Warner
Josh Warner	Bill Weibrecht	Dan Brodnax
Skip Missimer	Penny Eveler	
	Bob Eveler	<i>Shed Installation</i>
<i>Fall PF&BC Stocking</i>	Josh Warner	Ron Heuston
Rich Englar	Dan Brodnax	Billy Boyd
Ron Heuston	BSA Troop 152	Bob Shaffer
Bob Miller	<i>Fall Co-op Stocking</i>	Maurice
Dylan Miller	Rich Englar	Dave Pickel
Dean Snyder	Ed Keener	
	Fred Bridge	
	Fred Wilt	
	Maurice	

Streamside Incubator Program

In September 100,000 eyed brown trout eggs had been ordered from the Huntsdale Fish Culture Station in Carlisle, Pa. Eggs will be ready for pick up in December. The incubators are set up at two of the sites with some minor work to be done. We had to rebuild an incubator that was damaged in the 2004 flood and have built two new ones for the third site.

We'll deliver the two incubators to the third site within the next week or two and hook up the water flow. Whitlock-Vibert boxes will be placed in the incubators prior to eggs being delivered to sites.

A special thanks to Jim Bucher of Lancaster County for helping get the incubators assembled and sites prepared. Also thanks to Maurice Chioda & Josh Warner for delivering and retrieving incubators. Your efforts were truly needed to make this happen.

Terry Farner at the Huntsdale Fish Culture Station will notify us on time frame to pick up eggs. Anyone interested in picking up eggs or helping to place eggs in the Whitlock-Vibert boxes please contact Ron Heuston.

Fall Riparian Buffer Plantings

Watershed Weekend 2006

MCTU participated in the WAY Watershed Weekend again this fall with a riparian buffer planting along the DHFFO area in Bridgeton. Eight willing volunteers planted 125 green ash trees, 25 viburnum shrubs and 20 various fir trees along the north bank of Spencer Run and upstream some 900 feet on Muddy Creek. We installed tree tubes over the ash trees to prevent browsing by wildlife.

We would like to thank the volunteers who participated and especially Ida Moore, the landowner for allowing us to plant the buffer along her property.

St. James Church Planting

On October 24th 2005 MCTU installed 245 feet of riparian buffer along Bear Branch, a tributary to the North Branch of Muddy Creek. This project happens to be in front of the St. James Lutheran Church on Laurel Road.

With the help of more than 10 volunteers and Boy Scout Troop 152, we planted 175 plants including; silky dogwood, viburnum, winterberry holly, elderberry, serviceberry and common ninebark. Special thanks go to Ann Leffel who worked closely with MCTU on the design and presentation of this project to the Church. Also thanks to the women at the Church who provided a wonderful meal for the volunteers following the planting project.

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December 2005 - Muddy Matters Fall Projects Issue!

In This Issue:

-  ***North Branch Phase-1 Project Growing Greener Begins.***
-  ***Co-op Nursery Report.***
-  ***New Nursery Headquarters.***
-  ***Watershed Weekend 2005 Report.***
-  ***St. James Church Riparian Buffer Planting Report.***
-  ***Streamside Incubator Report.***

North Branch Phase-1 Project Growing Greener

The North Branch project in Felton is scheduled to began in late November. This means we need significant help with riparian buffer planting during the projected six week construction schedule. We will be seeding and spreading straw as well as planting trees and shrubs behind the constructions crews as the progress. Contact Ron Heuston with your availability if you can lend a hand. ***Volunteer!***

***The 2004 15th Anniversary Patch
 Now \$8.00.***

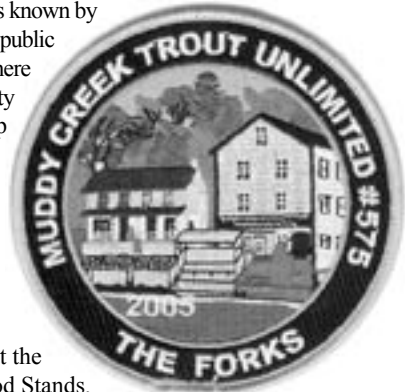


Buy the set or continue your collection with the 2005 "Forks" patch. Shown below!



MCTU 2005 Collectors Patch

Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited has committed to continuing the collectable patch fund raiser. This years patch features one of the most popular areas along our stream, Muddy Creek Forks. "The Forks", as it is known by local anglers is a public access area and where the Railroad society volunteers load up the train cars with trout to stock for nearly two miles along the North Branch and Muddy Creek.



Get your 2005 patch for \$6.00 at the Opening Day Food Stands, Chapter meetings, and on our web site. Visit our web site to see the patch in color or place an order.

www.muddycreektu.homestead.com